

CPYRGHT

Spain's great master El Greco—at the height of his powers in the 1590s—painted his famous *Pieta*, a study of Mary receiving the dead Christ at the foot of the Cross. Last week, after the *Pieta* had languished for 15 years in a Manhattan warehouse, a new owner was announced. The man whose \$300,000 was enough: Greek-born U.S. Shipyard magnate Stavros Niarchos, 45, who sent the painting indefinitely to Manhattan's Metropolitan Museum. Niarchos explained his generosity: "Having a painting like that in your own home creates some problems. It's so big that you would have to build a room around it."